

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 12, with the following amended paragraph:

The first, called in-situ sulfurization, which is characterized in that the catalyst in its oxide form is first of all loaded into the hydrocarbon conversion reactor to be sulfurized there. The second, called ex-situ presulfurization, as described in various patents of the ~~applicant~~ assignee or the predecessor in interest (US-4719195, US-5397756, EP-A 785022), differs from the preceding one in that sulfurization or presulfurization of the catalyst is done in a specific unit that is separate from the hydrocarbon conversion reactor, and in particular is located away from the utilization site of said catalyst.